



# ANN ARBOR ROWING CLUB

P.O.Box 3128 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106 734-930-6462

## AARC Board Meeting March 13, 2007

Purpose: The mission of the Ann Arbor Rowing Club is to provide and promote a safe, affordable, educationally rewarding rowing experience for residents of Ann Arbor and the surrounding area.

Present: Karen Berna, David Crouse, Kate Herrington, Peggy Herron, Margaret Hudson, Sarah Marsh, Tricia Miranda, Michelle Nemshak, Kristin Schrader

Absent: Sally Hilger

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The meeting was called to order at 6:39pm.

- 1) Welcome (Margaret)
- 2) Additions/Amendments to the Agenda?
  - a. Submitting updates ahead of meetings (Tricia)—Tricia will collect updates and forward to Board to read before meetings to facilitate more efficient and productive meetings
- 3) Approval of February minutes
  - a. Motion by Kristin to approve the minutes; Seconded by Peggy;
  - b. The minutes were approved with 7 votes (Kristin, Peggy, Kate, Michelle, Sarah, Margaret, Tricia); 1 abstained (David); (Karen B. had not yet arrived)
- 4) Review of Action Items (i.e., “Monkey List”) (Sarah)

6:53pm

### Discussions/Action Items

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- 5) Revisit a few program plans – Regatta, Sweep (Karen, Kate)
  - a. Regatta (Karen)—Fees presented at last meeting will stand; Board members will review the program plan for full understanding to be able to discuss with members;
  - b. Sweep (Kate)—Kate sent an email out for feedback to ~40 open and BSD rowers and had 7 responses. Per rower feedback, we will change program nights to Monday, Wednesday, Friday—each individual program (BSD, Open, ITP) will all be boated within their respective programs, and boats will be filled at the discretion of the coach; Billy would like a coach designated to a specific rowing program so that coaches become more familiar with rowers in each program. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturdays will be mixed rowing days for Open and ITP programs, but both programs will be equally drawn from to fill BSD boats—mixed line-ups will be directed through goals set by Director of Sweep Rowing (Billy). Morning rowing will be set-boats only, with Monday, Wednesday, Friday being program days; Tuesdays and Thursdays would be mixed boat days as in the evenings. Regatta participation will be encouraged—Kate will work with Billy to determine a training plan for race weeks. All workouts will be demanding, but by necessity attuned to the experience, fitness level, and training and competition goals of the specific rowers on any given night. As a club we will review Sweep Rowing at the June Membership Meeting.
- 6) Review of the bylaws (Sally)—Tabled to April Board meeting

7:34pm

- 7) Review of Club safety rules, including dark rowing (Michelle & David)—After considering the dark rowing proposal and discussion, dark rowing will be allowed when specific conditions are met—Michelle and David will tighten up the language, and circulate to the Board for a vote; Michelle and David will also circulate a proposed launch driver training within the next month: With safety launch coverage, morning rowing will commence April 9<sup>th</sup>.

8:26pm

- 8) Review of Boat Replacement Plan (Jerry)—Propose to buy some sculling equipment, including a more competitive single, and boat lifts for the boathouse.
- 9) Prepping for the Membership meeting (Peggy)-- Eric Dey and Peggy will present slideshow (or from handouts if it is too bright in the room for the projector) of survey results at membership meeting. Probably a 25-30 minute presentation. The remaining hour and fifteen minutes should discuss changes we have made for 2007 in response to the survey and other feedback. Sarah will provide a membership list to Board members to call and encourage to attend beer tasting and membership meeting.

## Reports/Information Items

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### 10) "Other Function" Reports (*only as needed*)

**Membership (Peggy) –Membership meeting, March 24—**(1) Open house was Saturday March 10th at the boat house. We have names of 16 people who signed the sign-in sheet and there were probably 5 or 6 others who didn't sign in. Nine people who came by were from Ann Arbor, the rest were from Pinckney, Northville, Canton, Whitmore Lake, Harrison Township and Brighton. It's possible we could do more to promote to Saline, Chelsea area next year. (2) Margaret, Sarah and Peggy met to discuss and plan for updates to SPORG forms. Forms are updated with the goal to go live on March 15th. (4) Membership Handbook is a work in progress - early progress. Peggy will send e-mails asking for input on individual sections over the weekend and plan to have it ready for the membership meeting on the 23rd.

### Finance (David) –Current TCF Account Status:

CD: \$10,374.54

Money Market Acct: \$31,090.70

Checking: \$ 5,240.58

### Automatic Payment Activities:

Paid From	Payment	Amount	Payee	Category	Memo	Check
TCF Premier Business Checking	3/13/2007	37.99	DTE Energy	Utilities	Electric Utilities	E-pay
TCF Premier Business Checking	3/9/2007	1530.78	ACE USA Insurance	Insurance		9005
TCF Premier Business Checking	3/9/2007	99.5	Stevens Disposal & Recycle Srv	Utilities	Porta Johns	9004
TCF Premier Business Checking	3/2/2007	145.64	Mobile Mini Inc	Utilities	Erg Storage 21015305 Boat Loan - 2xRacer4, Coxed4Racer Acct#414	9003
TCF Premier Business Checking	3/1/2007	830.63	Yankee Finance	VBCBI379		9002
TCF Premier Business Checking	2/15/2007	14.5	Answering Services Inc	Membership	Answering Srv VM6462	9001

CD is maturing March 17 and will be reinvested for Club reserve funds.

**Safety & Risk Management (Michelle/David)**—Michelle and David are working to update insurance, update club safety rules, and take an inventory of safety equipment—cox'n bags, life vests, pfd's, etc. Will work with Jerry to replace/replenish items as needed; will work with Jerry to purchase safety lights and flood lights for launches; AED—working with Carly Gomez-Fifer to decide on equipment purchase and training/implementation plan. Will be sharing proposal with HS. coaches to seek interest in sharing cost.

**Facility & Equipment (Jerry) – Spring work party, March 31--**a) Peinert Hull Damage - Mark Hogan and I have nearly completed the repairs on both shells. Peinert one is done, we are just clean it up before returning it to the boathouse. The second Peinert hull repair is done but we need to rebuild the deck and reinstall the hardware, clean etc. I expect to have that one back to the boathouse in a couple of weeks. b) Created spring cleanup plan for work day on March 31

**Nominating Committee** (Sarah)—The committee has met and consists of past AARC presidents that still live in the area; their role is review the club Board election and appointment processes, suggest and implement changes. We need to fill a Board seat being vacated by Sally. The Nom Comm put out a call for nominations and will look at individuals nominated and present their recommendation to the Board to make an appointment; Michelle suggested keeping records of all individuals nominated, who they were nominated by and their responses to the nomination for historical purposes.

11) Program Managers (*only as needed*)

**Communications** (Sarah) – Melissa has given us a2crew.com email addresses that work; group listservs will be created using the a2crew.com; web updates are moving along slowly; a review of the website and usability will have to be pushed back to a future date; Sarah is working to define her role as communications person

**Public Relations/Marketing** (Kristin)—Coverage has happened in the Observer in events section, Parks & Rec, and updated the LTR tear-off flyer to be included as an attachment in the weekly email for members to hang

**Adult Learning Programs** (Kristin)—A meeting for prospective LTR instructors will be held on Tuesday March 20 at 6pm at Leopold's; Sporg forms are set for registration

**Sweep Rowing** (Kate)—The Sweep program plan for the year has been updated and approved (see discussion above)

**Sculling, including LTS** (Jerry/Mark)-- a) Our search for a Director of Sculling has not yet been successful. One person has turned us down. We are pursuing other people. b) Mark and I have sent a draft of the Club Sculling web page text to Margaret for review before posting c) LTS dates for 2007 are June 2&3, June 16 & 17, June 23 & 24, July 14 & 15, July 28 & 29, and if a sixth class is needed, it will be August 4 & 5.

**Regatta** (Karen B)—Karen investigated and presented options for truck use (for trailering); the Board approved Karen further investigating the lease of a truck as a first preference; Karen will send out final cost estimate for approval to the Board via email, with a required response from all Board members on the vote.

**MCI** (Tricia) –We've acquired the park use permit from the City; three of the five refs have confirmed; and we already have one presenting sponsor (at least \$250 donation), HyperfitUSA.

**Youth** (Susan)--All website info was sent to Melissa last week, SPORG forms created. The next item for the Youth Rowing Programs is to start canvassing the high school rowing programs to recruit. Susan will be talking to Leah and Billy about that soon.

**Social** (Rachel) Beer tasting is set for Sat March 24, 4-6pm. We need a check to pay ABC the day of the event. Within one week, we receive a check from ABC for 50% of profit. Still need 5 volunteers; volunteers currently include Rachel Cox, Helana Shull, Cheryl Chidester, Liz Paterno-Sanchez, Carolyn Conrad

**Winter Training** (Mike)-- Attendance is off somewhat from projections, likely due in part to the very cold weather. It may not matter too much on the budget side when all is said and done, since coaching coverage will decrease from here on out and the expense side of the ledger will be lower as well.

**Merchandise** (Karen G)—Karen is working on implementing the merchandise plan, which includes finishing up the web and sporg preparation (including incorporating sporg fees into racing gear prices).

12) Neighbor Rowing Club Reports  
9:20pm

**OAAR Report** (Jerry)--Please be aware that the city is planning major renovation of Bandemer Park this summer. Jerry is trying to get a site plan so we can discuss. During the road construction we may have problems with it impacting our activities. Tom Kraft is coordinating with the city. Otherwise, conflicting schedule dates were resolved across the rowing organizations.

**City Liaison** (Tom)—Gregg, Rich, and Tom met with Amy Kuras (city park planner) last week to view the "final" plan for the lower end of Bandemer Park (our area). Tom is trying to get a drawing to present to the AARC board. The city would like to start work ASAP. We asked that they wait until after the high schools and UM finish their

spring seasons to decrease traffic problems. Amy assured us that none of the work would prevent us from accessing the river. The work won't interfere with the MCI but we may have to get creative with boat & trailer parking. That said, this will be a difficult summer co-existing with the construction. The biggest thing will be the moving of the road away from the river and closer to the boathouses. The parking will be more organized and consist of 50-60 spaces. This is less total area than we have now which will force us all to promote car pooling or alternative forms of transportation. There will be dedicated trailer parking but it will be tight. They are leaving 40' next to our building for possible future expansion of the boathouse.

**Huron Representative Report** (Tom/Mike)-- Huron started practice Monday 3/12/07 at Huron High School. We will be there through the first week, maybe longer. We are waiting for the mud to dry up a bit. Our schedule is M-F 5:30-7:30 PM. We also plan to hold some Saturday practice sessions to be determined later. We have 4 full time coaches and 2 part time. The team should number around 70 rowers. We will have 4 launches in the water as in past years.

**Pioneer Representative Report** (Rich)-- (1) **Schedule** – We will begin practice at the boathouse on Tuesday, March 13. Our practice time remains 4-6:15pm, M-F. We will be erging until the ice clears. We have moved our Saline/Huron tri-meet to Sunday, May 20, 10-1pm, due to traffic conflicts with MRA. (2) **Boats/Launches/Coaches** – 4 fulltime coaches, 1-2 p/t. We have purchased a fourth launch and will dock it near the other PRC launches on the north side of the dock landing.

Note: The Board approved the sharing of launches between AARC and the high school rowing programs.

**Nutrition clinic update** (Karen G)--As of March 12 we have eight people registered. Over the next week (by March 18), the goal continues to be getting to at total of at least 10 registered, ideally 11, in order to meet the minimum target. A message was also sent to AARC scullers a couple of days ago to communicate that Cristin intends the clinic for both scullers and sweep rowers. If come March 18 we don't have 10-11 registrants, our letter of agreement with Cristin says we'll notify her of this and that she would then have the option of cancelling by March 20. It would be great if everyone could pass on to me any comments you hear about what is/isn't appealing about this particular clinic.

**Long term planning** (Margaret)—This committee is being re-introduced to establish and secure the long term goals of the Club. Margaret will chair the committee and work to create one to report to the Board.

- 13) Review upcoming calendar and closing comments (Margaret)—This is the last Board meeting before the season opens; without a completed and successful boathouse work day we won't be able to do this. Margaret will circulate the list of things that must happen for the season to open.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:34pm.

*Note: On 3/20/07 the Minutes for the Board of Directors were passed.*

*Votes in favor: Kate, Kristin, Margaret, Peggy, Sarah, Tricia*

*No vote cast: David, Karen, Michelle, Sally*

*Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by Tricia Miranda, AARC Secretary.*

## **Calendar**

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### Upcoming meetings

- Board Meetings
  - **April 17**, 6:30pm, DTE Community Room, 425 Main St
  - **May 8**, 6:30pm, DTE Community Room, 425 Main St
  - **June 12**, 6:30pm, DTE Community Room, 425 Main St.
- General Membership Meeting – March 24 (in conjunction w/ Beet Tasting Fundraiser)

### Club events

- Beer Tasting Fundraiser – March 24
- Nutrition Clinic with Cristin McCarty – March 25
- Spring work party – March 31
- Season starts – April 9

More calendar items can be found online: [www.google.com/calendar](http://www.google.com/calendar) (search AARC)